

## 4.4

# ACCELERATED FACILITY CHARACTERIZATION PROCESS DESCRIPTION

### TECHNOLOGY NEEDS

With the increased needs of Federal agencies and regulators to accelerate the facility characterization activities and final D&D across the DOE complex, there is a growing need to broaden the approach to facility characterization. The objective of the Accelerated Facility Characterization (AFC) process is to provide a more efficient, scientific, innovative, and integrated approach to characterize nuclear and non-nuclear facilities.

### TECHNOLOGY DESCRIPTION

An innovative approach to facility characterization is being developed that integrates all appropriate scientific disciplines and characterization approaches to provide more cost- and time-effective characterization of facilities. Fundamental to the AFC process is a multi-disciplinary team approach to problem solving. Facility characterization is accelerated by working smarter to address the characterization problem efficiently by using all available information and decision tools to avoid blindly collecting un-needed data. Efficient decision making implies an intimate working relationship between the planner, sampler, analyst, data interpreter, and decision maker. The AFC process encompasses the following elements and general flow: 1) identify and assemble team; 2) define the problem; 3) develop dynamic work plan for each characterization element; 4) execute characterization; and 5) reporting.

### BENEFITS

The application of the AFC process will significantly reduce costs and time, obtain more accurate, rapid information, and allow better planning of facility D&D activities.

### COLLABORATION/TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

Argonne's role will be to provide technical expertise and guidance in the application and implementation of the AFC process to characterize the facilities across the DOE complex. We are collaborating with other sites, and private sector D&D contractors. This project is jointly funded and closely coordinated with the D&D Focus Area.

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- The AFC project received funding in January 1996. We initiated development of the work plan, and assembled the project team in February 1996. The project work plan has been completed and was delivered in March. Development of the AFC process and demonstration activities were conducted in 1996.

## TTP INFORMATION

Accelerated Facility Characterization (AFC) Process Description technology development activities are funded under the following Technical Task Plan (TTP):

TTP No. CH26C251 "Accelerated Facility Characterization (AFC) Process Description"

## CONTACTS

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY OF KEY PUBLICATIONS

None available at this time.